GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:330
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2000
INDO-US EFFORTS TO COMBAT TERRORISM
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any strategy has been evolved in response to the Prime Minister`s call given during his address to the US Congress concerning Joint Indo-US efforts to combat terrorism; and

(b) if so, the steps so far taken/proposed to be taken in pursuance of such joint strategy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.330 FOR ANSWE 12TH DECEMBER, 2000

(a) Yes Sir. India and the United States have institutionalised their co-operation to combat International terrorism through a Joint Working Group (JWG) on counter terrorism, whose formation was announced in January 2000.During the recent visit of Prime Minister Vajpayee to United States, the Prime Minister and President Clinton reaffirmed the importance of this Working Group for intensifying cooperation between the two countries to combat international terrorism and decided to expand the mandate of the Joint Working Group to include discussion on such issues as narco-terrorism.

(b) Two meetings of Indo-US Joint Working Group on counter-terrorism have so far taken place.First Meeting was held in Washington on 7-8 February, 2000 and the second meeting in New Delhi on 25-26 September, 2000. The two sides expressed concern at the growing menace of International Terrorism and agreed on some steps to enhance cooperation between the two countries in order to combat International terrorism which inter-alia include:

(1) To share experiences, exchange relevant information and coordinate approaches and action to combat International terrorism.

(2) Support for India`s proposal for a UN Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.